

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الرأي"

Today's Weather

A "khamsin" depression will cause warm, dry and hazy conditions...

Table with columns for Location (Amman, Aqaba, Deserts, Jordan Valley), Overnight (Low, High), and Daytime (Low, High) temperatures.

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 22, Aqaba 28, Sunset tonight: 6:01 p.m. Sunrise tomorrow: 5:14 a.m.

In today's Jordan Times...

- Crown Prince urges new humanitarian order: Page 2
Red Cross works to ease horrors of war: Page 3
Middle East peace: What comes first? Page 4
Riyadh, Doha get together on petrochemicals: Page 5
Communist warning on Poland: Page 8

AMMAN, TUESDAY APRIL 7, 1981 - JUMADA AL THANI 3, 1401 Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Chatti says 'Iran and Iraq ready to end Gulf fighting'

AMMAN, April 6 (R) - Iran and Iraq appear ready to end their six-month war and have promised to reply by the end of the week to peace proposals...

Mr. Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, said today.

The Vatican is opposed to the annexation of Jerusalem by Israel and has also spoken out for the right of the Palestinian people to determine their own future...

Reagan recovering well but fever recurs

WASHINGTON, April 6 (R) - President Reagan's damaged lung appears to be clearing, but he continues to run a mild intermittent fever...

Scots team vows help for Palestinian cause

DUNDEE, April 6 (AP) - A five-man Scottish delegation headed by Lord Provost of Dundee James Gowans pledged today to "deepen understanding of the Palestinian question...

Syria puts a chip on its shoulder

DAMASCUS, April 6 (R) - Syria's official press today brushed aside Israeli statements supporting the rightist militia fighting Syrian troops in Lebanon...



Khaddam reported due in Beirut today

Jumblatt predicts major confrontation in Lebanon

BEIRUT, April 6 (R) - Fresh fighting in Beirut and renewed artillery duelling round the eastern town of Zahle brought warnings today from a prominent leftist leader that Lebanon is on the brink of a major military confrontation...

Official sources in Damascus said President Assad reaffirmed his country's keenness to preserve Lebanon's security and stability during his telephone contact with Mr. Sarkis...

France offers to help

PARIS, April 6 (R) - French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing is sending a special emissary to Beirut to meet Lebanon's President Elias Sarkis and see how France can help...

Iran and Iraq ready to end Gulf fighting

AMMAN, April 6 (R) - Iran and Iraq appear ready to end their six-month war and have promised to reply by the end of the week to peace proposals...

Hussein warns against polarisation receives Haig

AMMAN, April 6 (JT/Petra/Agencies) - His Majesty King Hussein today warned against the "polarisation" of the Middle East conflict, stressing Jordan's insistence on the importance of keeping the Arab region free of "the policies of polarisation and international hegemony..."

He also stressed that the Middle East should be allowed to maintain its "identity, independence and free will." King Hussein was speaking during a two-hour meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig at the royal court this afternoon...

At the beginning of the meeting, His Majesty King Hussein welcomed Mr. Haig and expressed his hopes for the quick recovery of President Ronald Reagan from last week's assassination attempt...

Mr. Haig explained that U.S. diplomacy does not seek to arrange priorities in this area. Seeking to achieve the security and stability of the Middle East area does not mean that a just and comprehensive peace should not be achieved here...

Kuwait leaders contact Syrians on Lebanon

FUWAIT, April 6 (AP) - The Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, contacted Syrian President Hafiz Al Assad today in an effort to bring an end to the bloody fighting in Lebanon...

Wants to tell us what you think of us?

Here's your chance. In the coming week, the Jordan Times will conduct a readership survey. A questionnaire will be included as part of the newspaper for three days, beginning tomorrow...

NATIONAL

Prince Hassan urges new world humanitarian order

AMMAN, April 6 (JT) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan today said the time was ripe for a "new world humanitarian order."

The Crown Prince made the statement during an unscheduled visit he paid to the seminar on humanitarian law taking place at the Chamber of Industry Conference Centre here.

Prince Hassan said the time "has come to establish a new world humanitarian order to be based on strong social and economic foundations."

He also referred to United Nations responsibility towards the inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories and stressed that the termination of the British Mandate in Palestine in 1948 had "placed a grave responsibility" on the world assembly with regard to the future of Palestine and its Arab population.

"A comprehensive survey of the economic situation" in the occupied territories has been rendered impossible because of Israel's "repressive measures in those territories and the occupying military authorities' refusal to allow United Nations fact-finding missions into the area," Prince Hassan said.

The inhabitants of these territories, Prince Hassan added, "are now exposed to an Israeli scheme aimed at obliterating their economic and social identity."

Determined to smear the Arab image and eradicate Arab presence in the occupied territories, the Israeli occupying authorities "have formulated a new terminology for the occupied territories and their Arab inhabitants," he added.

He called on the world to intensify its efforts "to rectify these fabrications."

Islamic thought and Arab heritage had preceded the Geneva Conventions by hundreds of years in applying a humanitarian spirit in dealing with enemies, both in times of war and internal armed conflicts," Prince Hassan recalled.

He cited the example of Islam's first caliph, Abu Bakr Al Siddiq, who instructed his armies: "Do not kill children, women or old

people; do not destroy trees." Yesterday, His Royal Highness formally opened the seminar, the first of its kind to be held in Arabic, which groups representatives of Red Crescent and Red Cross societies from the region.

The first lecturer at today's session was Dr. Mohamad Aziz Shukri, lecturer in international law and international organizations at the University of

Ayyoub back from China, South Korea

AMMAN, April 6 (Petra) — China has expressed the desire to purchase Jordanian potash and fertilisers when production starts, and to continue its purchases of Jordanian phosphates, Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayyoub said here today.

Speaking upon returning home from a tour in the Far East, the minister said that during his visit he held talks with Chinese officials which resulted in the purchase of Chinese consumer products at last year's prices.

At a meeting with the Chinese vice premier, Jordanian-Chinese relations and the Middle East question were discussed, the minister said. He added that Chinese officials emphasised their country's support for the rights of the Palestinian people in their struggle to restore their usurped land.

The minister's tour also took him to South Korea where he discussed with government officials there means of increasing the volume of trade between Jordan and South Korea.

Mr. Ayyoub said he concluded contracts for purchasing South Korean consumer products for the Jordanian Civil Service Consumer Corporation at last year's prices.

Damascus. He described in detail the historical origins and the nature of humanitarian law.

He was followed by Mr. Hans-Peter Gasser, head of the legal division of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), who spoke about the main instruments of modern international humanitarian law, the Geneva Conventions and the Law of the Hague.

The Seminar, organised jointly by the Jordan National Red Cross Society and the ICRC, lasts until April 15.

North Yemeni aide arrives with message to Hussein

AMMAN, April 6 (Petra) — The information minister of the Arab Republic of Yemen, Mr. Hassan Al Lawzi, arrived in Amman this evening for a one-day visit to Jordan during which he will convey to His Majesty King Hussein a message from the North Yemeni president, Mr. Ali Abdullah Saleh.

Mr. Lawzi was met at the airport by Information Minister Adnan Abu Odeh.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan opening meetings here Monday of the Concept Group on Jordanian Archaeology. He is flanked by Minister of Culture and Youth Ma'n Abu Nowar (left) and Antiquities Director Adnan Al Hadidi. Also seen (right to left): Dr. Antonio Almago and Professor. Martin Almago of the Spanish Archaeological Mission in Jordan, Professor Abdul Aziz Al Douri of the University of Jordan and Ms. Nazmi Toufik of the Department of Antiquities.

...and more attention to historical heritage

AMMAN, April 6 (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan today called on the Concept Group on Jordanian Archaeology to focus more attention on the historical heritage of Jordan and the surrounding area, because it was "the cradle of monotheistic religions and one of the sources of man's identity."

Addressing the opening session of the group's two-day meeting here Prince Hassan also stressed the need for "coordination between archaeological, historical and environmental research studies."

In his speech, Prince Hassan stressed the importance of cooperation among institutions in conducting archaeological research, publishing their findings, the maintenance of archaeological sites and undertaking excavations and surveys.

He expressed the hope that the Ministry of Culture and Youth would embark on a continuing programme to revive our national heritage.

The minister of culture and youth, Mr. Ma'n Abu Nowar, spoke at the outset of the meeting welcoming the delegates and expressing his appreciation for Prince Hassan who originated the idea of the conference on the history and archaeology of Jordan.

At its meeting, the Concept Group will review proposals put forth by the committees of the first conference held at Oxford last year, particularly where it concerns the study of Jordan's history and the publication of research papers conducted in this field.

Seven die in road accident

AMMAN, April 6 (JT) — Seven people were killed and one person was injured in a road accident which occurred on the Amman-Azraq highway on Friday. A report in *Al Ra'i* newspaper today said two vehicles, a truck and a passenger car, were involved in the accident; the truck was bearing a Syrian number plate.

After the two vehicles overturned on the road as a result of the collision, the Syrian driver took to his heels, but was apprehended trying to cross into Syria at the border post of Ramtha, the newspaper reported.

In addition, seven road accidents occurred in Jordan in the past 24 hours in which five people were injured, a spokesman for the Public Security Directorate said. The accidents were among 27 incidents, he added.

In another development, police patrol desert region east of Amman yesterday apprehended three persons who had stolen sums of money and jewellery from a bedouin near Muwaqqar belonging to Mr. Mohan Farah.

The three had stolen JD 13,000, 270 riyals and ten pieces of gold jewellery, the reports said.

Police suspected a man who used to be Mr. Al Farah, and upon interrogating admitted stealing the money and the jewellery collaboration with two of his friends, who him carry the booty in a car to Amman, the said.

Police were able to retrieve only JD together with the other currency, the j and two unlicensed pistols.



Police officers investigate the wreckage of a Syrian truck and a Jordanian passenger car, following a road accident on the Amman-Azraq highway on Friday which resulted in the death of seven and the injury of one.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

AMMAN, April 6 (Petra) — Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, announced today it will grant a 50 per cent discount on air fares for disabled persons and their attendants on all the airline's routes. A spokesman for the airline said the step was taken as a contribution to Jordan's activities in observance of the International Year for Disabled Persons.

SUWEILEH, April 6 (Petra) — The minister of communications, Dr. Mohammad 'Addoub Al Zaben, said here today that all villages and population centres in the Suweileh region will be linked with the town's automatic telephone exchange soon. Speaking at a meeting at the town's municipality today, the minister said that the exchange has a capacity of 5,000 lines, out of which only 2,700 have been in use. Applications for telephones will be favourably dealt with, he said. Attending the meeting were local officials and mayors in the Suweileh region. Later the minister called at the Prince Rashid housing estate, west of Amman, and opened a post office there.

AMMAN, April 6 (Petra) — The Council of Arab Economic Unity's customs committee ended a three-day meeting here today at which it discussed several subjects related to boosting economic ties and cooperation among Arab states. The committee referred a proposal for establishing a unified Arab customs zone to the Arab states for comments and further study before tackling the subject at the next committee meeting. The committee also referred several other issues concerning transport and customs to the Arab Social and Economic Council for a comprehensive review and asked Arab states to put forth by June next year any proposals for amendments and comments on a proposed unified Arab customs law. Taking part in the meeting were delegates from Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Palestine, Libya, North and South Yemen.

AQABA, April 6 (Petra) — The Iraqi director general of customs arrived here today for a two-day visit to the city. His talks with officials from the Ports Corporation and the Department of Customs will deal with Iraqi goods imported through the port of Aqaba. The two sides will also discuss increasing the volume of trade between Jordan and Iraq. The Iraqi official was accompanied by several Jordanian officials on a tour of economic installations and the Port in Aqaba.

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Noor, Mrs. Haig visit Madaba



MADABA, April 6 (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor today accompanied Mrs. Patricia Haig, wife of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, on a visit to the Greek Orthodox Church in Madaba. Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Ma'an Abu Nowar accompanied them on the visit.

They were received on arrival by the Madaba district governor and mayor, and several officials of the district.

Queen Noor and Mrs. Haig heard an explanation from the assistant director of antiquities on the ancient Madaba church, in which there is a map of Jordan and Palestine, including the city of Jerusalem, dating back to the sixth century A.D.

Queen Noor and Mrs. Haig also visited the historic site of Mount Nebo on the outskirts of Madaba, where they heard a briefing on the site.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

The Jordanian Artists Association presents an exhibit flower-arrangements by Alema Abdallah. The Exhibition to the Public from 9-11 a.m. and from 4-7 p.m., at the ation's hall (across the street from the French Cultural Ce Jabal Luweibdeh.

The Alia Art Gallery, in cooperation with the Mathaf G. London, presents an exhibition of works by artists of the 19th century orientalist movement.

The Spanish Expedition, in cooperation with the Department of Antiquities, presents "The works of the Spanish Archae Mission in Jordan", at the Holiday Inn hotel.

The Directorate of Moral Guidance (the military info bureau), in cooperation with the Department of Li Documentation and National Archives, presents the first issue of military books. This exhibition, which comes as a National Book Week, is open to the public from 9 a.m. - 5 the Palace of Culture in Sports City.

Film

The Goethe Institute presents a series of films dealing women's issues. The first film in the series is "Alice in t (1973), directed by Wim Wenders. The show will start at at the institute in Jabal Amman.

AMMAN STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

Name of Company	Par Value	Number Traded	High	Low	Close Pri
Islamic Bank 50%	JD 1.000	4,550	1.740	1.730	1.75
Jordan-Kuwait Bank	JD 1.000	5,976	2.220	2.220	2.22
Jordan-Gulf Bank	JD 1.000	4,910	1.540	1.530	1.53
Housing Bank	JD 1.000	10,500	2.230	2.230	2.23
Arab Investment Bank	JD 1.000	4,950	1.610	1.600	1.61
Jordan National Bank	JD 5.000	65	17.000	17.000	17.00
Bank of Jordan	JD 5.000	2,276	15.800	15.550	15.80
Cairo Amman Bank	JD 5.000	5,531	13.550	13.550	13.55
Arab Bank Co. Ltd.	JD 10.000	60	130.000	130.000	130.00
Arab Financial Foundation (Jordan)	JD 10.000	600	13.800	13.800	13.80
Petra Bank	JD 10.000	200	20.610	19.630	20.61
Arab Union Insurance Co.	JD 1.000	180	1.430	1.430	1.43
General Insurance Co.	JD 1.000	100	1.530	1.530	1.53
Arabian Seas Insurance Co.	JD 5.000	819	10.450	10.400	10.45
Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1.000	17,644	2.110	2.070	2.10
Arab International Hotels Co.	JD 1.000	4,000	0.950	0.940	0.95
Arabian Investment and International Trading Co.	JD 1.000	4,840	1.060	1.040	1.05
International Contracting and Investments Co.	JD 1.000	160	0.860	0.860	0.86
Cattle and Poultry Co.	JD 1.000	1,050	0.620	0.620	0.62
Dar Al Sha'b for Press, Publications and Distribution	JD 1.000	5,000	0.950	0.940	0.95
Garage Owners Federation office Co.	JD 1.000	500	9.500	9.500	9.50
Arab Development and Investments Co.	JD 2.000	10,815	1.740	1.700	1.74
Jordan Dairy Co.	JD 1.000	7,564	1.260	1.200	1.26
General Mining Co.	JD 1.000	1,520	1.750	1.730	1.75
Arab Aluminium Industries Co.	JD 1.000	10,280	1.280	1.270	1.28
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Co.	JD 1.000	6,050	3.530	3.530	3.53
Arab Chemical Detergents Industries Co.	JD 1.000	4,400	3.950	3.930	3.93
National Steel Industries	JD 1.000	4,880	1.980	1.960	1.96
Dar Al Dawa' Development and Investment Co.	JD 1.000	750	3.360	3.330	3.36
MASS Blades Manufacturing Co.	JD 1.000	2,000	0.750	0.750	0.75
Jordan Worsted Mills Factories Co.	JD 1.000	775	3.140	3.140	3.14
Jordan Ceramics Industries Co.	JD 1.000	4,000	1.160	1.160	1.16
Jordan Phosphate Mines Co.	JD 1.000	260	3.450	3.450	3.45
Jordan Lime and Silicate Brick Industries Co.	JD 5.000	1,345	5.380	5.350	5.38
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Co.	JD 5.000	288	29.000	28.900	28.90
Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co.	JD 5.000	1,097	8.450	8.420	8.42
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing Co.	JD 10.000	50	15.400	15.400	15.40
Jordan Cement Factories Co.	JD 10.000	5	18.350	18.350	18.35

Total Volume of shares traded on Monday, April 6, 1981: JD 383,261
 Total number of shares traded: 129,990

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NATIONAL

Action and law

CRC conducts humanitarian struggle on two fronts

By Dina Matar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, March 5 — For many years, countries and government officials have been putting their signatures to a series of international laws to humanise war. But words on paper do not mean a thing — it is actions that count.

is the theme of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which is currently holding a seminar in Amman in cooperation with the Jordanian Red Crescent Society.

The 10-day seminar deals with history, development and application of international humanitarian law, and it aims at finding ways of making existing laws — to protect both soldiers and civilians — better known to governments and other concerned parties.

Since 1868, when Swiss philanthropist Jean Henri Dunant founded the Red Cross, conventions have been held in Geneva to implement laws for the protection of people during war-

time. And for over 100 years, the Red Cross has been on to move to extend its services all over the world, during peace as well as in war.

The Red Cross comprises two institutions, the ICRC and the League of the Red Cross Societies, both based in Geneva. At present, 400 people are working at the headquarters, with another 250 delegates in the field.

The ICRC conducts its humanitarian struggle on two fronts, action and law: the first through its delegates and the second through its legal experts. It was the first to bring the rule of law to the conduct of war, when it persuaded European powers to agree on a set of rules aimed at improving medical care for

wounded soldiers.

But the ICRC's most difficult task comes under the heading of "action". Delegates have to be constantly on the go, and can always be called upon to risk lives.

The main purpose of the Red Cross is to seek out and alleviate suffering, protect life and health and uphold the dignity of man. The ICRC has become famous for its aid to refugees, prisoners of war and the wounded.

The ICRC has maintained an office in Amman since 1967, and coordinates its work with that of the JRC. Although the emblems are different, the two organisations have much in common.

"The ICRC has helped prisoners in the West Bank of Jordan, and has been carrying messages across the Jordan River from detainees to their families," Mr. Nicolas Sommer, ICRC press officer, told the Jordan Times. The ICRC's work in Lebanon has also been widely recognised.

Because the ICRC remains a neutral intermediary in armed conflicts, the wounded, the helplessness and all affected civilians have gained a lot from its services.

And since it abstains from taking sides in political conflicts or in racial and religious controversies, its activities have spread. They

have taken the form of medical assistance, relief and visits to detainees and prisoners of war.

"The ICRC is always willing to give aid to needy people, and the Palestinian refugees have been no exception," Mr. Sommer said. "However, the help is carried through the responsible agencies in a certain country, like UNRWA" (the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees).

The golden rule of the ICRC has been that anyone taking part in fighting — whether wounded soldier, prisoner or civilian — has a right to be protected, and his rights are respected.

The purpose of humanitarian law is to outlaw cruelty from armed conflicts. For example, it is not acceptable to torture prisoners of war; mass bombing is forbidden; the taking of hostages and shooting in hospitals is unthinkable.

The ICRC's work in this respect is far from over. New forms of warfare demand the further development and propagation of law to protect people from atrocities. "The seminars help us in this respect, because we can get the full cooperation of governments and other acting bodies in a certain country," Mr. Sommer

said.

"The seminar which is currently taking place in Amman is the last in a series," he said, adding that this is the first time a seminar is being held in Arabic.

"It is a means not only to train

personnel, but to disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law to everyone," he said.

The general public has not been overlooked by the committee. The man in the street is constantly

informed of the ICRC's activities and ideals.

Trying to rouse the conscience of the world has been the most difficult duty of the ICRC, and its work in this respect has earned it universal recognition.

Mr. Sommer said: "We hope that this seminar will help us convey our ideals to the Middle East region, and we are sure that the Jordanian people will cooperate; because they have suffered and they know what suffering means."



Although the emblems of the ICRC and the JRC are different, the two organisations have much in common. Since 1967, they have cooperated in aiding refugees, prisoners of war and the wounded.



The ICRC's most difficult task comes under 'action'. Delegates have to be constantly on the go and can always be called upon to risk lives.

ART REVIEW

Kaplanian: Gentle sketches and paintings of local scenes

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, April 6 — A local artist who catches Jordan's familiar landscapes and the charm of recognizable old buildings and streets in gentle sketches, water-colours and oils is an artist who is much appreciated, and whose work is easily accessible to many who share the experience of the same scenes.

George Kaplanian is just such an artist. Born in Jerusalem, he lived in Bethlehem, and he has been painting and living in Jordan for the last five years. Some of his work, now on show at the British Council, captures the calm desolation in the ruins of Jerash and the tranquillity of Jerusalem.

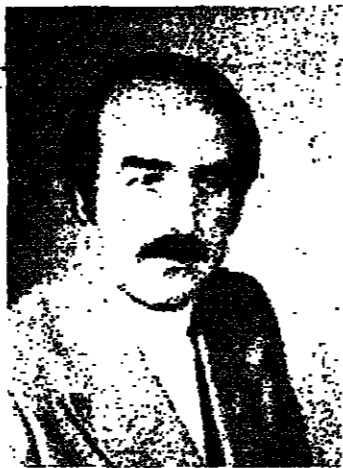
Mr. Kaplanian uses many different media, and his use of each is quite successful, exploiting various properties to achieve interesting effects. In his oil paintings, the artist uses the stronger colours and textures to give perspective and depth to his landscapes.

Particularly good are the treated green rolling hills, the distant blueness of just visible mountains and the poppy-clad foregrounds of "Swissish-above

Fbeish town" and "Im Qteifan — off Arda Highway". In these two paintings Mr. Kaplanian has eliminated the weakness of the skies which spoil his other oils. Like the grey, thickly textured, monochromatic sky in "Temple of Artemis — Interior View" and the pale white sky in "Wadi Seer Old Mill".

The water-colours and sketches show the 40-year-old artist's skill and knowledge in architectural drawing: All the street scenes of Old Jerusalem are full of details in the bicoloured trefoil arches, the cross-vaulted ceilings, the old stones and doorways, the pitched red roofs, the domed rooves and the minarets.

The small dark figures in the ink-and-wash "Street Scene, Bethlehem" emphasise the old thick walls that enclose the narrow



George Kaplanian

streets; and the brown-cloaked shepherd in the water-colour "Im Qteifan" gives interest, along with the foreground detailed trees, to the rolling cultivated brown hills behind.

But the brightly clad, sketchily drawn figures, particularly in "Old Souk, Old Jerusalem", detract from the finely drawn sombre interior, as do the wild flowers — small dots of bright colour — in the otherwise well-composed "Temple of Zeus", where the distant columns are seen marching down a distant hillside through a gap in the ruins.

Some unusual charcoal still-lives complete the collection. The unconventional arrangement and the seldom-portrayed objects in "Bride's Dowry" give it a certain originality, while the composition and distortion of sizes make "Coffee Pot and Grinder" oddly attractive.

The exhibition opened Saturday night, and as a mark of the popularity of Mr. Kaplanian's work and of his reasonable prices (ranging from JD 40 to JD 125), nearly half of the 40 pieces had already been sold.



"Minaret in Castle of Antonia, Jerusalem" by George Kaplanian

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OPINION

Jordan Times

Responsible Editor: MOHAMMAD AMAD... Board of Directors: JUNA'AH HANADY, RAJA KRASSA, MOHAMMAD AMAD, MAHMOUD AL...

Middle East peace: ends before means

By Ibrahim Abu Nab

The Jordanian Role

The recognition of Jordan by the new American administration as a key country in the search for peace in the Middle East was apt and encouraging...

Organisation), their sole and legitimate representative, is no option at all."

The late King Faisal of Saudi Arabia may have had a point in seeing a secret alliance between Zionism and Communism to swallow up the area...

each regime in the area individually...

And starting the process of "strategic consensus" with the left-overs of Camp David...

hope to make it forgotten through the creation of new facts as they have consistently done...

Let us agree that Jerusalem is to be exclusively Jewish. "too big to be exclusively Muslim and too big to be exclusively Christian..."

remain after all the super-induced incentives have gone...

Such a solution for Jerusalem posed above is not out of line with UN Resolution 242...

Not the issue

ISRAEL'S expression of concern for the Christians of Lebanon leaves us bewildered, though not totally surprised...

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I: Statements made in Washington before U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig...

The European initiative

Viewed from the European angle, one could see why by the late seventies and early eighties the European powers were watching all this with no little apprehension...

An Arab initiative

The question may justifiably arise here: what else can be done? And is there really an Arab answer?

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Saudi riyal 96.5/96.9, Lebanese pound 80.1/80.9, Syrian pound 52.4/53.2...

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION CHANNEL 3: 5:30 Koran, 5:45 Cartoons, 6:35 Young and Restless, 7:10 Programme Preview...

RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz AM & 99 MHz FM: 7:01 Sign on, 7:05 Morning Show, 7:30 News Bulletin...

BBC WORLD SERVICE 639, 720, 1413 KHz: GMT 04:00 Newdesk, 04:30 Aria, 04:45 Ethnical News...

CULTURAL CENTRES: American Centre 41520, British Council 36147-8, French Cultural Centre 37009...

DEPARTURES: 7:00 Aqaba, 7:05 Beirut, 8:55 Cairo (EA), 9:25 Beirut (MEA), 10:00 Frankfurt...

EMERGENCIES: Ambulance (government) 75111, Civil Defence rescue 61111, Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) 36381-2...

PHARMACIES: Amman 23672, Nainoukh 36730, Al-Salam 42959, Habsayb 77444...

MUSEUMS: Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings...

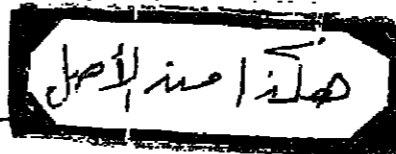
USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS: Fire, police 199, Fire headquarters 22090, Cablegram or telegram 18...

MARKET PRICES: Tomatoes 270, Eggplant 160, Carrots 110, Turnips 80, Bananas 270...

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The morning is fine for deciding just what your overall ambitions are and to implement them by constructive action...

Handwritten signature or note at the bottom of the page.



MIDDLE EAST

Saudis welcome constructive' role by superpowers

MECCA, April 6 (R) — Saudi Arabia hopes to have strong relations with the superpowers but does not deceive itself that this can be based on friendship, foreign minister Prince Saud Al Faisal was quoted yesterday as saying.

"The role of the superpowers towards our cause is constructive there will be no obstacle to good relations with them," Prince Saud said in an interview with the London-based Arabic magazine *Al-Majalla*.

But he said: "We deceive ourselves when we consider that our relationship with the great powers was based on friendship."

In the interview, published ahead of the visit to Saudi Arabia this week of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, Prince Saud said a dialogue between Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union existed and was continuing.

Saudi diplomats abroad met Soviet ambassadors, "but circumstances have not presented themselves for an exchange of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union," he said.

Saudi Arabia has no diplomatic relations with communist bloc countries.

Prince Saud said he hoped the Soviet Union would be effective and positive on problems of the Middle East. But the invasion of



Prince Saud Al Faisal

Afghanistan had deepened suspicion of Moscow's designs in the region.

Commenting on the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force (RDF) to protect the Gulf, he said: "There are no interests for any power in the Gulf except those of the people of the Gulf."

"Interests and the security of the Gulf can only be protected by the states of the Gulf," Prince Saud added.

Pope Paul receives Islamic delegation



Pope Paul II

VATICAN CITY, April 6 (AP) — Pope John Paul II today received in private audience representatives of the Islamic Conference and exchanged views on the Iraq-Iran war, Vatican sources reported.

The delegation was led by Mr. Habib Chatti, a former Tunisian foreign minister now serving as secretary-general of the Islamic Conference and included, Mr. Gin Ahmet of Turkey, the conference's permanent observer to the United Nations.

The sources said the Islamic official briefed the Pontiff their effort to bring about a negotiated settlement of the Gulf war. Since the war began last year, the Pope repeatedly has called for an international initiative to end the conflict.

Riyadh, Doha to launch petrochemical industry

DOHA, April 6 (AP) — Saudi Arabia and Qatar have embarked on massive joint projects to develop their petrochemical and iron and steel industries, according to official announcements here today.

The two countries were said to be keen on utilising their vast oil and gas resources to set up infrastructures in the two fields of industry under joint ventures.

The Saudi minister for industry and electricity, Dr. Ghazi Al Ghusabi, arrived yesterday and signed a cooperation accord with the Qatari minister of finance and petroleum, Sheikh Abdel Aziz Bin Hamad Al Thani.

The agreement calls for setting up joint venture projects between the Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Company (SABIC) and the Qatari General Establishment for Petroleum to develop their petrochemical industries.

Saudi Arabia is investing \$14

billion in gas gathering projects, part of which is to be directed to the petrochemical domains.

Qatar also was reported to have earmarked unspecified billions of dollars for similar purposes.

Details of the agreement were not immediately available. Industry sources said the two countries were bent on averting duplications

in the field of petrochemical industries and have set up joint committees to conduct coordination and feasibility studies in this connection.

A joint committee was to conduct economic viability studies, cost price and market conditions before defining the types of projects to be built in the two regions.

At seminar in Rome Arabs, S. Europeans to discuss cooperation

KUWAIT, April 6 (AP) — Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah flew to Rome today to attend a three-day seminar on ways of accelerating cooperation in the fields of economic development between the Arab

oil countries and southern European states.

The seminar, opening tomorrow in the Italian capital, is to be jointly sponsored by the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and the Italian state oil company ENI.

In Bahrain, the Gulf news agency reported that Mr. Youssef Shirawi, minister of industry and planning also left for Rome to take part in the seminar.

Also attending will be ministers from Syria, Iraq, Algeria, Libya, and experts from Italy, Yugoslavia, Turkey, Portugal, Spain, Cyprus, Malta and other south European countries.

Kuwait's Sheikh Ali is to deliver a lecture on "development of downstream oil operations in oil producing countries."

Somali opposition group launched in London

LONDON, April 6 (R) — A Somali opposition group calling itself the Somali National Movement (SNM) was launched in London today with the declared aim of overthrowing the government of Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre.

Its executive includes former planning minister, Mr. Ahmad Ismail Abdi and former Somali civil servants and diplomats.

Mr. Abdi, in a speech at the SNM's inaugural meeting, attacked President Siad Barre's administration.

"Productivity is zero, farms are neglected, the skilled manpower,

has emigrated, all talent has left the country," he said.

International aid sent to feed the 1.5 million refugees from neighbouring Ethiopia was not reaching those for whom it was intended.

In a statement of its aims, SNM said the voice of the Somali people had been brutally silenced and it wanted a democratic parliamentary system of government.

It opposed the stationing of foreign troops in Somalia, where the United States has a strategically important base at the Berbera entrance to the Red Sea.

Seychelles raps Morocco for West Sahara policies

VICTORIA, Seychelles, April 6 (R) — President Albert Rene of Seychelles has accused Morocco of using the politics of expansionism and extermination in the Western Sahara.

He reaffirmed support for the Polisario front guerrilla movement that is fighting for Western Saharan independence and proclaimed a Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR).

Mr. Rene was speaking after the arrival of Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, who is on an African tour.

Algeria is the Polisario's main backer and President Chadli is expected to urge African leaders to support a Polisario bid to join the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) at a heads of state meeting in Nairobi in June.

At the last OAU summit, in Sierra Leone, 26 of the 50 member states said the SADR should be admitted. Morocco threatened to quit if it was.

President Rene attacked the "intrigues of imperialism" in Africa and said part of the imperialist manoeuvres were "the politics of expansionism and extermination by Rabat against the people of the Western Sahara."

He denounced what he called Morocco's attempts to destabilise Mauritania.

The Western Sahara was ceded to Morocco and Mauritania by Spain in 1976, but Mauritania has since signed a cease-fire with the Polisario Front.

Last month, dissident army officers tried to overthrow the Mauritanian government.

President Chadli is due to leave for Tanzania today.

Saudis lift the veil on brides-to-be

By Ali Mahmoud

MECCA: After 14 centuries of scrupulous adherence to an austere Islamic orthodoxy, Saudi Arabia's clergy have decided that blind marriage is unfair.

A committee of *fugahau*, learned interpreters of the Koran, has ruled that women may unveil their faces to prospective bridegrooms. Once the engagement formalities are firm up, the couple may see each other with the female removing her veil for his sake, according to the ruling.

"Any man forbidding his daughter or sister from meeting her fiancé face-to-face will be judged as sinning," the committee declared.

Men have depended on their mothers or sisters to look for prospective wives, and customarily see the face of the woman they take in marriage only at *zafrah*, the marriage consummation ceremony.

The mother of the would-be groom would initiate the process with a visit to the family of the chosen girl. The mother offers the girl hard nuts and insists that she cracks them with her teeth, to test their strength and ascertain these are not false.

The mother also might pull the hair of the girl, to make sure it is natural.

If the mother is clever and glib, she might surreptitiously get a snapshot of the girl and sneak it to her son.

If the mother's role proves difficult, a professional matchmaker, or *Khabeh*, takes over.

"Islam recognises the legitimacy of proposers seeing their prospective wives," the directorate of fatwa and guidance announced on March 25. It also ruled that forcing women into marriages is a "practice devoid of any religious basis."

The ministry of justice also ruled that *Sharia*, Islamic law,

permits proposers to see and talk to the prospective bride — but this should be done only in the presence of chaperones. The ministry said a chaperone should be a close female kin of the prospective bride or a man whose marriage to her is forbidden, such as her father, brother or uncle.

Saudi young men and women rejoiced, while elders were reluctant to absorb the new rulings.

"If the Koran says so then it must be correct," said Mr. Musayel Al-Hindi, a Meccan taxi driver and father of four teen-age girls. "But, to tell you the truth, this all will go against the principles we inherited from our fathers and grandfathers."

Mr. Muteb Hussein, a 24-year-old merchant, said the new rules will "solve lots of problems."

"It often happens in our society that a groom is shocked with disappointment when he sees his bride for the first time at *zafrah*," he said. "He will either desert or neglect her."

The rulings made frontpage headlines in newspapers around the Gulf region.

"It is a step forward," said one Saudi banker. "Our religion is progressive, but we are backward. It is high time we rediscovered our Islam, the most realistic religion ever imparted on mankind."

Although the Saudis are pushing industrial and economic development, they tend to resist any change in the social norms of their intrinsically bedouin desert society. Those norms condone polygamy and regard women as an instrument for men's pleasure.

However, the Saudi government accords top priority to the education of females, but segregated from boys. Women teach primary school. There are women doctors, nurses and social workers who are allowed to work only with their own sex.

Restricting women to their homes or to jobs that have nothing



A Saudi woman artist portrays the veil to do with men has forced the government to import large numbers of foreign workers.

Saudi women in urban regions, mainly in the oil centre in eastern Saudi Arabia, were said to be quietly trying to talk officials into granting them drivers' licenses.

Only men are allowed to drive here, and women complain that hired drivers are scarce and expensive. Yet resistance is strong.

A traffic police superintendent complained that it would be improper for a traffic officer to stop and question a female driver. And he cautioned that, in the event of a flat tire, a woman driver would have to remove her veil to replace the wheel. (AP)

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MIDDLE EAST BRIEFS

Iran, Russia to discuss transport problems in the Caspian Sea

TEHRAN, April 6 (R) — Iranian officials will discuss problems linked with the transshipment of goods through Caspian Sea ports at a meeting of the joint Soviet-Iranian economic commission later this month, the official Pars news agency reported yesterday.

Much of Iran's trade with east and west Europe passes through Soviet ports on the inland sea and the route has taken on added importance due to the six-month-old war with Iraq which has seriously hampered imports through the Gulf ports. Pars said the Iranian mission would include officials from the ports and navigation organisation, foreign ministry, and transport organisation.

International trade union to examine Turkish conditions

BRUSSELS, April 6 (R) — Conditions in Turkey under the six-month-old military government are to be examined by an international trade union delegation that left here today for Ankara. The mission, led by Mr. Otto Kersten, general secretary of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), will spend a week visiting Ankara and Istanbul. It plans to examine trade union rights and proposed new rules restricting the way unions can operate, an ICFTU spokesman said.

Kurdish rebel mine kills 15 Iranians

TEHRAN, April 6 (R) — Fifteen people were killed when a truck they were riding in hit a land mine near the Kurdish town of Naqadeh in the troubled province of West Azerbaijan on Saturday, revolutionary guards said today. A spokesman for the guards said the mine had been planted by "counter revolutionaries". He said all the victims were civilians. The term

Five terrorists arrested in Cairo

CAIRO, April 6 (AP) — Five persons, identified as agents of an unidentified Arab hostile organisation, have been arrested on charges of plotting to bomb public installations in Egypt. Cairo press reports said last week.

The reports said the five terrorists infiltrated into Egypt recently after receiving training in an unnamed Arab country opposing Egypt's peace moves with Israel.

The nationality of the arrested were not disclosed although the paraphrasing of the reports indicated they are Egyptian. The reports said an unspecified "quantities" of bombs and explosives were found in their possession when arrested. No further details were given.

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ECONOMY

World shipbuilding recovers

LONDON, April 6 (AP) — The world shipbuilding industry is showing definite signs of recovery, Mr. Robert Huskisson, chairman of Lloyds Register of Shipping, said today.

For the second straight year, figures compiled by Lloyds show a substantial increase in tonnage on order at year-end, he said in the group's annual review for 1980, released in London today. The latest annual total is 34.6 million gross tons, up from 28 million tons a year earlier and 25 million tons for 1979, he said.

Lloyds Register, which monitors maritime safety, views the latest figures with "confidence". Mr. Huskisson added.

Japan continued last year to supply half of the world building tonnage, the report said, with South Korea now potentially its greatest rival.

Meanwhile, China is beginning to build ships for export, the report noted.

In line with increased public concern over maritime safety and environmental considerations Lloyds has continued to expand its survey and inspection work into accident and pollution prevention facilities on ships and into off-shore structures, the report said.

Kuwait suspends oil supplies to 3 companies

LONDON, April 6 (R) — Kuwait has suspended oil loading by three major western oil companies in an effort to obtain a premium price, oil industry sources said today.

The sources said the companies, British Petroleum (BP), the Royal Dutch Shell Group and Gulf Oil Corporation, have argued that premiums on top of official government selling prices are not justified because of a developing world oil surplus.

Kuwait's official price is \$35.50 a barrel on which it sought a premium of \$3—later scaled down to \$2 in talks with one customer, according to the New York oil industry newsletter *Petroleum Intelligence Weekly (PIW)*.

Several members of OPEC (the Organisation of Petroleum

Exporting Countries) levy premiums on top of official rates for crude oil, arguing these are justified as the price for access to large volumes on long-term contract.

Oil analysts saw Kuwait's current negotiations as a test case for crude oil pricing at a time when a sharp slump in world demand is leading to predictions of a glut by early next year.

BP, Shell and Gulf have been buying 75,000 barrels a day (b/d) each from Kuwait at its official price, under contracts to run until October 1982, with BP and Shell taking supplemental volumes at a premium of \$5.50 under contracts which ended on March 31.

Industry sources said Kuwait now wants premiums extended to cover the oil sold under their unexpired contracts.

Spokesmen of the companies would not comment except to say they were negotiating with Kuwait, although BP Chairman Sir David Steel said last week he did not think current market conditions justified any premiums.

The authoritative *Middle East Economic Survey (MEES)* said today Kuwait did not seem worried by the prospect that BP, Shell and Gulf might end up buying a much-reduced volume of its crude.

The Nicosia-based oil newsletter said the renegotiations could result in the three buying less than 200,000 b/d between them compared with 450,000 b/d last year.

It said Kuwait had lined up other buyers and commented: "whatever the soggy state of the crude market, the uncertainty quotient is such that some companies will always be prepared to pay over the odds for security and continuity of access".

Trade sources in Tokyo meanwhile said another Gulf state, Qatar, had threatened to stop selling oil to Japanese buyers unless they continued paying a premium of \$6.50 a barrel.

Songapore oil traders said Japanese refiners were also negotiating on premiums with Kuwait.

Traders estimated that the Japanese had been paying a premium of five dollars a barrel to Kuwait.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON, April 6 (R) — Following are the buying and selling rate for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at the close of trading on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets today

One sterling	2.1695/1710	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	2.3815/35	Dutch guilders	
	1.9680/9700	Swiss francs	
	35.19/21	Belgian francs	
	5.0870/0900	French francs	
	1069.00/1070.00	Italian lire	
	213.85/214.05	Japanese yen	
	4.6700/25	Swedish crowns	
	5.4300/25	Norwegian crowns	
	6.7625/50	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	529.00/530.50	U.S. dollars	

Banking is the Bahamas' new business

By Paul Betts

The Bahamas for a long time relied on banking and tourism to develop their infrastructure, but the offshore banking industry has new challenges, while the islands face increasing economic and social problems.

Although Mr. William Allen, the new governor of the Bahamian Central Bank, says the challenge from New York so far is "more apparent than real," he did not disguise his concern. "New York clearly poses a threat. But at present we are more worried by Miami. In any event, a big hole could be knocked in our offshore banking business as we know it today. And we are well aware of the need to respond to a changing situation," he said.

During the past 10 years, the Bahamas have grown into the largest Eurodollar centre after London. Mr. Allen estimates that the Eurodollar loan portfolios of the more than 300 banks in the Bahamas now amount to about \$85 billion.

Precise figures are not available because the Central Bank has so far not examined the offshore bank branches' books, a move which might provoke considerable concern. In any event, nearly half that total involves business by the big New York banks, which have used the Bahamas as their main Eurodollar centre for the Western hemisphere.

The main attractions the Bahamas offered were a convenient location on the same time zone as New York, no income tax and a generally accommodating government in one of the Caribbean's most politically stable areas.

But apart from the incentives New York will soon be offering, recent developments in the Bahamas have also begun to worry foreign bankers.

Serious economic problems are beginning to surface, coupled with growing social pressure including, in particular, severe youth unemployment. Elections are to be held within the next 12 months, and although Mr. Lynden Pindling, the Prime Minister who led the country to independence from Britain eight years ago, has no real opposition to speak of his Progressive Liberal Government has been facing a major wave of unpopularity.

Foreign bankers have been worried lately by talk of new taxes, although Mr. Allen categorically ruled out that the Government would introduce income tax. The bankers have also been worried by recent land legislation, which has made it extremely difficult for banks to own Bahamian property.

They are concerned too by the Government's policy of so-called "Bahamisation," aimed at encouraging banks to employ Bahamians in senior management positions.

As one US banker, who preferred not to be named, put it: "As long as the banking industry is confident over the political stability of the Bahamas and as long as there are adequate incentives, the Bahamas will retain their position as an international financial centre. But the big banks would not think twice about moving out to other neighbouring offshore centres if they really got worried."

In recent weeks the Nassau authorities appear to have got the message. They are already talking

of revising the Land Bill. They have tightened their bank secrecy regulations to attract more trust business, not only from Europe, but especially from Latin America. And in view of the possible loss of Eurodollar business to New York, Mr. Allen said the Central Bank and the Government were taking a longer-term look at other possible areas to develop the Bahamas as a financial centre.

"We have examined the idea of an offshore stock exchange, a commodity exchange based in Nassau, and the possibility of developing the Bahamas as a foreign exchange centre," he said. But the Central Bank governor and New York bankers are still doubtful that such exchanges can be developed in Nassau in the short term at least.

There has recently been an attempt to launch a Nassau certificate of deposit. Both Morgan Guaranty and Citibank issued certificates of deposit for the first time last year, through their Nassau branches carrying negotiable receipts in New York which can be traded in the New York money market. But so far this novel financing has not taken off, largely because of the competition from the combination of short-term investment instruments available in the New York market.

Perhaps the most promising area for the Bahamas, according to the Central Bank governor, is the captive insurance industry. At present, the largest captive insurance centre in the world after London and New York is Bermuda.

But Bermuda has become saturated with captives — offshore insurance subsidiaries formed by large companies to underwrite their own insurance and reap some of the profits insurance companies make from them. And although the Caymans have developed a large captive insurance business, the Bahamas, with the right incentives, could well cash in.

"Much of the Eurodollar business is likely to return to New York," one Nassau-based US banker said. "What we are now advising the Bahamian authorities to do is to concentrate their promotional efforts outside the US — to look for business, especially trust accounts, in Latin America and Europe and to develop other financial instruments." And already the Bahamas appear to be moving along these lines.

As Mr. Allen put it: "It is crucial for the Bahamas to remain an important financial centre." For while banking brings in only about 7 per cent of the annual national income, it is offshore banking, with tourism, which has helped the Bahamas to develop crucial infrastructure, communications and telecommunications.

"Other countries, like Barbados, are now realising the indirect benefits of offshore banking. And we will now have to compete against those countries as well as the IBFs," the governor said.

(Financial Times news features)

Swiss voters reject proposal to improve foreigners' status

BERN, April 6 (AP) — Swiss voters decisively rejected a proposal to improve the status of foreigners, particularly seasonal workers, early results from the weekend referendum indicated.

The proposal, favoured by religious, left-wing and some trade union groups, was voted down 233,685 to 42,510 in ten of the 26 cantons and semi-cantons.

The proposal called for the elimination of the status of seasonal workers—about 110,000 last year—within five years and for new legislation to allow foreigners in general easier access into Swiss society.

Under the current rules, seasonal workers—mainly Italians and Spaniards—are granted permits for only nine months out of the year and may not bring their families into Switzerland. Most of them work in agriculture, construction and the hotel and restaurant business. There are 890,000 foreigners in Switzerland, 14 per cent of the total population.

India to help Malaysia develop small industries

KUALA LUMPUR, April 6 (AP) — Malaysia has asked India to help introduce two small-medium scale industries which can benefit rural people. Foreign Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen said today.

He said the requests for assistance in developing the tanneries and oil extraction from rice bran operations were made when Indian Minister of Commerce, Steel and Mines, P.K. Mukherjee, held talks with him here.

Mr. Tengku Ahmad said he met entrepreneurs of the two industries in Bombay while attending the recent non-aligned meeting in

India, and they showed keen interest in helping Malaysia set up such industries.

He told Mukherjee that India could help narrow the two-way trade imbalance, now in Malaysia's favour, by "exporting" small and medium scale industries which can help raise the living standards and incomes of people in rural areas.

During other talks with Prime Industries Minister Paul Leong Khee Seong the Indian minister assured that his country would import more palm oil from Malaysia.

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RES

Topped by government defeats Rome caught in the crisis

Italy has needed an economic austerity programme for some time, but that fact has been masked by last year's expansion of the economy and frustrated by general difficulty of governing Italy.

By James Buxton

ROME: The economic crisis which has just stolen up on Italy may have been unexpected in its timing, but it had been a long time in the making.

Last year, when other industrial economies were deflating and going into recession, the Italian economy continued to expand -- by nearly 4 per cent. When export markets turned down, manufacturers simply diverted their products to the buoyant domestic market, and let the balance of payments take the strain -- with a record annual deficit of £2.9 billion financed by borrowing on the Euromarket.

The Government took the first serious deflationary measures in July, and introduced a credit squeeze at the end of September, when Sig. Francesco Cossiga's Administration was suddenly defeated. But the measures were not sufficient to do more than stop inflation rising any further. It ended the year at about the same level as it had begun, 21 per cent.

When the lira fell sharply against the dollar in late January this year, the Bank of Italy introduced new curbs on credit expansion, but a few weeks later Dr. Carlo Ciampi, the governor, was still warning of the need to cut inflation and the payments deficit.

The fact that the payments deficit for February was lire 1,614 billion, three times the previous month's figure, and that the February inflation figure was virtually unchanged at 19.5 per cent, brought home to the Government the scale of the crisis. But the decisive factor was the sudden pressure on the lira, stemmed by the Central Bank just before the emergency package at the cost of about \$1 billion.

Until recently, a series of exceptional factors protected the lira. As the dollar rose steadily towards the end of last year, all the European Monetary System currencies were being devalued together almost indiscriminately against the U.S. currency. At the same time, the D-mark was beset by the problems of the West German economy, and for a time the lira actually appreciated against it.

The recent strengthening of the D-mark put an end to this process, and made it inevitable that Italy would sooner or later have to pay the price in the exchange rate for an inflation rate twice that of nearly all other European Community countries, even though the lira has always had a much wider fluctuation band within the Euro-

pean Monetary System (6 per cent compared with 2.25 per cent) to take account of this fact.

Behind the chronically high inflation and the high consumption rate -- Sig. Arnaldo Forlani, the Prime Minister, recently likened Italy to a family which had spent more than it earned -- lie important political facts.

The first is that the *Scala mobile* -- the "moving scale" system of indexation, which triggers wage increases almost in line with inflation every three months -- is an unworkable element in the unwritten agreement between Italy's rulers and ruled.

It is the workers' reward for tolerating a political system in which the party representing a vast number of them -- the Communist Party -- is not allowed to take power.

The other fact is that a coalition government of the kind that Sig. Forlani leads -- embracing the Christian Democrats and three of the smaller parties somewhere to their left -- would not at the best of times be an instrument for taking really restrictive economic measures which would make people feel substantially worse off.

These factors have been accentuated by the particularly unhappy experience of Sig. Forlani's Government, which has had to grapple with exceptional problems almost from the moment it took office -- the oil tax evasion scandal, the earthquake last November, then the Red Brigades kidnapping around Christmas.

Now the parties, including the Christian Democrats who have a great array of clients to support in the south, are concentrating their attention on the June local elections, and stressing what they are doing for their particular interest groups.

On top of all this has come the series of parliamentary defeats for the Government in the past month, caused by apparent inattention among MPs of the majority. These have led to additions to the budget deficit of about L5,000 billion of recurrent expenditure, and to the possible subtraction of between L1,500 billion of anticipated revenue.

Deep differences of view exist between the three main Economic Ministers drawn from the Christian Democrat, Socialist and Republican parties.

While Sig. Nino Andreatta, the Minister of the Treasury, has wanted tighter controls on spending, Sig. Giorgio La Malfa, the Budget Minister, has been promoting a three year plan of his own

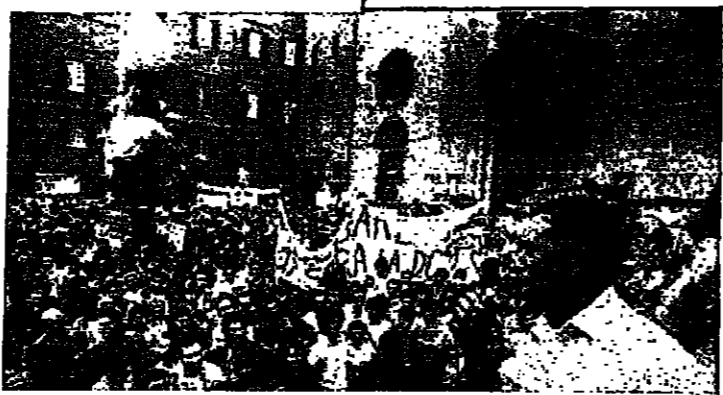
devising. Although it has not been published, it emphasises investment in industry and infrastructure (notably in badly needed power stations), partly financed from abroad.

The tension with Sig. Andreatta has been caused by the plan's emphasis on expenditure, even though it envisages a shift in the balance of the budget deficit towards capital, as opposed to current spending, as well as keeping the deficit static.

The plan was passed by the cabinet last month and is the framework in which the government hopes to cut current spending as part of the latest austerity measures, while making such cuts palatable by holding out the prospect of renewed growth.

For the government wants to bring its budget deficit back down to what it previously intended by trimming some spending items, including social security, instituting a type of pay freeze for public sector workers, and rolling back a recently agreed pay deal with doctors.

The trouble is that these measures either require parliamentary



Economic issues have invariably been paramount in Italy's election campaigns. (Gamma photo)

approval, which on recent form may be in doubt despite Sig. Forlani's appeal for greater responsibility and self discipline, or union agreement which, against the background of continuing public service strikes and inter-union competition, seems distinctly improbable.

Hope must therefore be invested in the monetary and credit measures -- the devaluation and the rise in the bank rate by 2.5 per cent to 19 per cent. These are the measures, along with rises in taxes and charges for state services, with which the Italian economy has long been run, and provided the 6 per cent devaluation is sufficient, they should be effective.

The tighter credit squeeze is necessary to ensure that Italians do not continue to import at previous levels of volume at the newly increased cost, and that the necessary shift in resources from the

domestic economy to exports takes place.

The Italian economy is traditionally highly responsive to this sort of measure. An impressive level of industrial investment has been achieved over the past two years, and big Italian companies appear to be breaking out of the straitjacket of manpower restrictions and debt which crippled them in the 1970s, while the smaller companies retain great vitality.

Tourism will benefit from devaluation, as will farmers. Inflation should come down to about 15 per cent this year, and the payments deficit should gradually subside. But the necessary structural move away from excessive government current spending may be too much to expect from the present government.

(Financial Times news features)

Music and film piracy -- a menace to the industry

GENEVA (R) -- Representatives of 40 governments met recently here to discuss ways to fight international pirates who deprive legitimate record and cassette companies of millions of dollars a year.

The companies estimate the bootleggers control nearly 10 per cent of the world market in records, tapes and films and took in \$1.5 billion last year.

Today's pirates have little of the glamour of their predecessors although the takings are richer. Instead of operating on the high seas in leaky galleons, they work from back alleys with high-speed duplicators and a batch of cheap tapes.

"Nowadays, record pirates are often the same people who are active in other illegal enterprises such as the trade in dangerous drugs," says the International Federation of producers of Phonograms and Videograms (IFPI), linking the legitimate music and videotape business in 68 countries.

"In the United States and Europe, for example, it is clear that there are close links between record piracy and organised crime," the federation reports. "In South East Asia there are many indications of similar connections."

From Europe to Asia piracy has created a crisis for record and film producers, leading the United Nations copyright protection organisation to call a special three-day meeting here last month.

The 40 government delegations were here to attend the worldwide forum on the piracy of sound and audiovisual recordings convened by the Geneva-based World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO). "We are not talking about the person at home who puts a record on cassette or who videotapes a television programme," a WIPO official said. "We are talking about big business -- commercial piracy on a large scale."

In Turkey, pirate recordings of the disco hit films "Grease" and "Saturday Night Fever" went on sale before the authorised versions could even be produced.

"In the United States, pirate video cassettes of the films 'Star Wars', 'Close Encounters of the Third Kind', and 'Apocalypse Now', were on the market even before these films were released in cinema halls, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) said in a report to the forum. The ILO keeps a special watch over piracy because of the revenue lost by entertainers and actors.

The ILO said that a French trade union had estimated that if piracy continued unchecked throughout the world during the next five years, one half of the record companies would close down.

More than 100,000 people are estimated to work in producing, manufacturing and distributing records in the European Common Market (EEC). But the pirates also rob thousands of artists and composers.

One French singer found that his whole act had been pirated in Latin America when he turned up for a scheduled concert and was challenged about his identity. A man using his songs, his beard and beret style and even his name had already been through the region.

IFPI estimates that about 18 per cent of all pre-recorded tapes sold in the U.S. are pirate-produced. In most of western Europe the percentage is estimated at less than 10 per cent, and often less than five per cent.

But the proportion reaches about 35 per cent in Italy and as much as 80 per cent in Portugal, IFPI said in a paper prepared for the meeting.

In Latin America the rates vary between 10 per cent in Uruguay to about 50 per cent in some central American States. But more than

80 per cent of the tape market last year went to pirates in India, Indonesia, South Korea, Singapore and Thailand, IFPI also reported.

Western Europe and the U.S. accounted for some of the international traffic in pirate recordings. "But the really massive export trade in pirate product is from Southeast Asia to all over the world," IFPI says.

Worldwide figures for videotape piracy are not available. But the ILO notes estimates that video piracy accounted for nearly 30 per cent of the legal market in the United States last year.

"In other parts of the world the situation is even more serious," the ILO said. "Seventy-five per cent of the video cassettes in the Middle East and 80 per cent in India are illegal."

One problem about stopping the pirates is the ease with which they can set up their operations. Mr. David Gibbins, director of IFPI's anti-piracy operations, reports: "In most parts of the world, the capital cost of a high-speed duplicator, the only piece of equipment necessary for commercial reproduction of cassette tapes, can be paid for out of the proceeds of approximately 40 running hours of the equipment."

Another obstacle, IFPI says, is that fines for piracy in some coun-

tries are low. In Britain the maximum fine for a first offence is two sterling per copy. This contrasts with the U.S., where maximum fines for a first offence can go up to \$25,000.

But government clampdowns can work. Hong Kong set up an anti-piracy unit as part of its customs and excise service in 1973. The industry believed then that 50 pirated copies were produced for every legitimate cassette tape recording sold. Now the pirates' share of the market is put at less than five per cent.

The record business rejects charges that it is to blame for the success of the pirates because of high prices charged for legitimate cassettes and denies that the way to defeat the boot-leggers is to cut costs.

"The record pirate has hardly any of the expenses of the genuine manufacturer," says IFPI Director-General John Hall. Since he only pirates successful recordings -- which are incidentally a small percentage of all the recordings made -- he takes no commercial risks.

"The legitimate producer can therefore never compete successfully with the pirate by lowering his prices, but the pirate can ruin the legitimate producer and drive him out of business."

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MOWNE
LULKS
ATEQUE
KIRBEC

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: "_____"

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: AWFUL DALLY CAMPER KETTLE
Answer: What the nervous pianist was -- ALL KEYPED UP

THE BETTER HALF

By Vinson

"I shampooed the carpet while you were out, so watch out for that slippery creme rinse."

Peanuts

HOW'S THE GAME GOING? IF YOU NEED ME TO PITCH, I'M READY ANY TIME...

CHUCK, YOU'RE GONNA DRIVE ME CRAZY! CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND WE DON'T NEED YOU TO PITCH?!

WE NEED YOU TO SELL POPCORN!!

IF I WERE PITCHING, I'D GIVE THIS NEXT GUY NOTHING BUT CURVE BALLS!

Andy Capp

THANKS FOR TAKIN' ME BACK, PET. YOU'RE WELCOME.

I'LL BE DIFFERENT IN FUTURE.

GOOD -- PERHAPS YOU'LL ALLOW ME SOME LATITUDE WHEN I'M OUT WITH YOU, EH?

IF YOU ALLOW THIS LAD SOME LATITUDE, HE GOES IN FOR THE WHOLE 180 DEGREES.

Mutt 'n' Jeff

OH, DEAR, SHOPPING IS SUCH A HEADACHE!

OH, I FEEL DIZZY, MUTT! EVERYTHING IS GETTING BLACK! I'M GOING TO FAINT!

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN

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2 ♠ Pass?

What do you bid now? A. -- Despite the fact that you are void in the suit partner opened, your hand offers great possibilities. If partner does not have too many high cards in hearts and has something in the minor suits, your holding could easily produce slam. We would start to probe by bidding three diamonds.

Q.4 -- Both vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠AJ965 ♥A83 ♦7 ♣K1063 The bidding has proceeded: South West North East 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take? A. -- In support of clubs, your hand is worth 16 points -- you must upgrade the king of trumps and your singleton is worth 3 distributional points. Any bid other than three clubs now will make it impossible for you to catch up later.

Q.5 -- Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠J1072 ♥KJ83 ♦7 ♣A872 The bidding has proceeded: North East South 1 ♠ ?

What action do you take? A. -- Don't even consider a penalty double -- your trumps aren't good enough for such a bold measure at the one-level. It is a close decision between a pass and a bid of one no trump. While you are slightly weak for the latter action, you have just enough cards to suggest that partner might find it difficult to act again on his own. We would vote for one no trump.

THE Daily Crossword

by Marlon Moeser

ACROSS 27 Favor strongly 51 Lean 23 Author Hobson

1 Commoner 54 Wane 56 Fleer 24 Teacher

5 Opera heroine 35 Relish 61 " -- the valley --" 26 Chinese universal principle

10 Wheels for hire 36 Performer 62 James Bond 27 -- Dale 28 Fathers in Parade

13 Illness 37 Mountbatton, e.g. 65 Stone and Iron 29 Fan-leaved trees

14 Songs for SA 38 Latin dance 66 Gallic good-bye 30 Greek communes

15 Ms Cinders 40 Hialeah matters 67 Modem? 31 Talker 32 Kostelanetz

16 Time teller 41 Deficiency ailment 68 Talk 33 Made over 34 Lioness

18 Smaller amount 43 Heavenly state 69 Unwanted person 35 Sound loudly 36 Frolic 37 Ram

19 Winter flyer 45 Modern beam 46 Like some clams 47 Location for Scarlett 50 Pod or corn

20 Haggard heroine 21 Arrange for seats 22 Actress Taina 25 Inner: prof.

DOWN 1 Bird sounds 2 Shah Jehan's city 3 Smashup 4 In case 5 Marble 6 "A man -- mouse?" 7 Prudes 8 Hidden provisions 9 Pale 10 Nile queen, for short 11 Too 12 Take sun 15 Breathing space 17 Chinese money units

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

GREYAT GAJIA BOIZO
ARTECA AXEL AVOW
PERCHURITTY GRENIE
RECHURDIES WARDEN
STAINED WIPERS
SILIA JAVELINS
INDIEK TAXIED GAIT
NEEDY PAGES WHITZ
TALI WHINKS HITTLE
OPENINGS CANE
CONEY PADDIS
MATZOS SOL INCA
ARIZ SALAWANDER
SIEDL EXAM AIGANA
SIAIE DEWY RISTYET

27/71

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